FARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The current estimates of prevalance of filariasis in the country is as under :

Population residing in known endemic areas	—About 360 mil.
Number of persons with circulating micro-filaria in the blood	—About 25 mil.
Number of persons with filaria disease manifestations	—About 19 mil.

(b) No surgical procedure is available so far to treat the irreversible swellings in limbs due to filariasis, However, the Hydrocoele due to filariasis is being seated surgically in the hospitals as and when patients report there.

(c) Due priority has been accorded to control filariasis through National Filaria Control Programme which is under operation in the country since 1955.

Demands received from CGHS Pharmacists Association of INDIA

3093. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any demand has been received recently by Government/ C.G.H.S. from C.G.H.S. Pharmacists' Association of India, Delhi for creation of posts of (i) Senior/Head Pharmacists in each system of Medicine in each Dispensary in Delhi and outside Delhi; (ii) Chief Pharmacist in all the Medical Store Depots and sub-Depots and (iii) Pharmacists-in-Chief for Medical Store Depot:

(b) if so, when the demand was received first and action so far taken in this regard by Government/ C.G.H.S.; and

(c) by when these posts are likely to be created in C.G.H.S.?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. However, in pursuance of the recommendations of 4th Pay Commission, a proposal for up-gradation of 223 posts of Pharmacists as Head Pharmacist in the Scale of Rs. 1640-2900 is under consideration.It is not possible to give exact date by which these posts will be upgraded as it requires Consultation with different Ministries/ Departments.

Constitution of Committee for C.G.H.S. Pharmacists

3094. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any committee was constituted by Government to look into the grievances of CGHS Pharmacists ; if so, when the committee was constituted ; and what was its composition ;

(b) whether the committee has submitted its report to Government' if so, when and the main recommendations of the Committee ;

(c) the details of demands which have been implemented and those which are pending for implementation with the Central Government Health Scheme/Government ; and

(d) by when the pending demands/ recommendations are likely to be implemented by Government/ CGHS?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAM NIWAS